GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3978
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2003
EXPORT OF MINERALS
ALE NARENDRA

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target fixed for export of minerals during the Ninth Five Year Plan has been achieved;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there has been a steep decline in the export of minerals during the past few years from some States;

(d) if so, the names of items whose export has declined during the above period alongwith the reasons therefor;

(e) the steps being taken by the Government to boost the export of minerals; and

(f) the countries which have shown their willingness to import minerals from India?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI S.B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a)&(b) As per the available data, annual targets and performance during the Ninth Five Year Plan Period (1997-98 - 2001-2002) are as under:

(US$ Million)

YEAR	TARGET	PERFORMANCE
1997-1998	1250	1278
1998-1999	1252	1118
1999-2000	912	1170
2000-2001	1204	1417
2001-2002	1543	1536
TOTAL	6161	6519

(Source: DGCI&S & MMTC)

(c) & (d) The collection of export and import data is done at national level and, therefore, State-wise figures are not maintained.

(e) In an endeavour to accelerate the export of minerals, following steps have been initiated:

- `Granite` has been identified and declared as a `thrust area` and necessary steps initiated for hassle-free export of granite in consultation with the Ministries of Mines and Finance and the State Governments.

- Ministry of Mines have notified amendments to the Minor Minerals Regulation & Development Rules paving way for uniform policy throughout the country for prospecting licence for lease/royalty/dead-rent, etc. in granite sector.

- MMTC Ltd., the designated State Trading Enterprise for the export of High Grade Iron Ore, have since renewed Long-Term Agreements with Japanese and South Korean steel mills and have entered into similar Long-Term Agreements with Chinese steel

mills.

- Private exporters who own mines have been allowed to export high-grade iron ore to bring in healthy competition when surplus to domestic demand is available.

- The Department of Commerce provides Market Development Assistance (MDA) for all products for participation in overseas trade fairs/exhibition and overseas publicity.

(f) Apart from the traditional markets for export of minerals i.e. Japan, South Korea, Australia, Germany, Hong Kong, Taiwan, recently China, Pakistan and the Middle-East have shown their willingness to import minerals from India.